Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED PAGE 01 SAIGON 03555 261237Z 53 **ACTION EA-10** INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 AID-05 OMB-01 /087 W ----- 109393 O R 261103Z MAR 75 FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4176 INFO USDEL JEC PARIS AMEMBASSY JAKARTA AMEMBASSY TEHRAN AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST AMEMBASSY WARSAW AMEMBASSY BANGKOK AMEMBASSY CANBERRA AMEMBASSY TOKYO AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY ROME AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE CINCPAC HONOLULU HI AMCONSUL BIEN HOA AMCONSUL CAN THO AMCONSUL NHA TCANG AMCONSUL DA NANG AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI **UNCLAS SAIGON 3555** DEP PASS IMMEDIATE TO IBS/NCA NEW DELHI PASS LINDAHL CINCPAC FOR POLAD E.O. 11652: N/A UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED

TAGS: PINT, VS

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SUBJECT: THIEU ORDER OF DAY URGES TROOPS TO FIGHT

- THE FOLLOWING WAS BROADCAST BY PRESIDENT THIEU OVER SAIGON RADIO AT 0505 GMT ON 26 MARCH.
- 2. BEGIN TEXT: COMRADES IN ARMS AT ALL LEVELS: IN THE PAST THREE WEEKS, YOU HAVE FOUGHT COURAGEOUSLY ON ALL FRONTS AGAINST AN UNPRECEDENTEDLY VIGOROUS GENERAL OFFENSIVE CONDUCTED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS.

BY LAUNCHING LARGE-SCALE ATTACKS, THE ENEMY HAS MUSTERED ALL OF HIS FORCES TO OVERRUN A NUMBER OF PROVINCES IN MR-I AND MR-II. YOU BROTHERS HAVE EXERTED EFFORTS TO CHECK THE ENYMY, INFLICTING HEAVY LOSSES IN LIVES AND ACMAMENTS ON HIM. HOWEVER, FACED WITH THE ENEMY'S OBVIOUS SUPERIORITY IN TROOP STRENGTH AND FIREPOWER, WE HAVE HAD TO SCALE DOWN THE SCOPE OF OUR DEFENSE IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT IT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE FACILITIES AND CAPABILITIES AT OUR DISPOSAL IN THESE TWO MILITARY REGIONS.

DISREGARDING THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND WORLD PUBLIC OPINION, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS HAVE OPENLY USED FORCE TO TAKE OVER THE SOUTH. THEREFORE, WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO FIGHT FOR NATIONAL SALVATION. AS OF TODAY, YOU MUST CHECK THE ENEMY'S ADVANCE AT ALL COSTS, FIRMLY DEFEND OUR POSITIONS AND FRONTLINES, AND BRING ALL INITIATIVES AND CAPABILITIES INTO FULL PLAY TO ANNIHILATE THE ENEMY AND LAUNCH RESOLUTE COUNTER ATTACKS.

IN THE DAYS AHEAD, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE, THE DETERMINATION TO WIN MUST BE PROMOTED AMONG ALL OF OUR ARMED FORCES, EXEMPLARY COMMAND MUST BE DEMONSTRATED AT ALL LEVELS, BATTLEFIELD DISCIPLINE MUST BE STRICTLY OBSERVED, AND ALL COMBAT OCDERS MUST BE STRICTLY EXECUTED.

COMRADES IN ARMS AT ALL LEVLES: OUR SOUTHERN ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE HAVE FOUGHT CONTINUOUSLY OVER THE PAST 20 YEARS AGAINST THE NORTHERN COMMUNIST AGGRESSORS. OUR FIGHT HAS GONE THROUGH MANY UPS AND DOWNS. HOWEVER, WE HAVE BECOME STRONGER IN ALL RESPECTS AFTER EACH TRIAL. EACH TIME WE HAVE BEEN UNCLASSIFIED

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SUBJECT TO A STRINGENT TRIAL, OUR DETERMINATION TO SURVIVE HAS BEEN FURTHER TEMPERED, OUR ENDURANCE HARDENED, AND OUR INDOMITABLE DETERMINATION HEIGHTENED.

BY LOOKING BACK AT THE COURSE OF OUR RESISTANCE AGAINST THE COMMUNIST AGGRESSORS, WE INDEED HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PROUD BECAUSE WE CRUSHED THE TWO GENERAL OFFENSIVES CONDUCTED BY NORTH VIETNAM DURING THE MAU THAN TET HOLIDAYS AND IN THE

SUMMER OF 1972 WE TRIUMPHED BECAUSE WE HAVE BEEN COURAGEOUS AND HAVE HAD AN ABSOLUTE SPIRIT OF SACRIFICING FOR THE VALUES AND TRADITIONS THAT ALL OF OUR SOUTHERN PEOPLE CHERISH AND ARE WILLING TO PRESERVE.

AT THIS MOMENT, WHEN HISTORY IS REPEATING ITSELF, MANY OF OUR COMBATANTS AND COMPATRIOTS HAVE HAD TO SECRIFICE THEIR LIVES FOR THE COUNTRY OR ENDURE PHYSICAL SUFFERING, AND THEIR FAMILIES HAVE TO LIVE IN MORNING. MANY OF THE BROTHER COMBATANTS ARE FIGHTING UNDER EXTREMELY HARSH CONDITIONS. HUNDREDS OF OUR COMPATRIOTS HAVE LOST ALL THEIR PROPERTX, HAVE HAD TO LEAVE THEIR NATIVE PLACES, AND HAVE BEEN VICTIMIZED BY COMMUNIST FIRE BECAUSE THEY ARE DETERMINED TO COME TO US, BECAUSE THEY FIRMLY BELIEVE IN THE JUST CAUSE AND FREEDOM THAT WE ARE DEFENDING.

THIS GREAT SACRIFICE OF OUR COMBATANTS AND COMPATRIOTS HAS MADE US CONSCIOUS OF OUR GREAT RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD OUR COUNTRY AND IS A MOTIVE FORCE URGING US TO FIGHT TO THE END IN ORDER NOT TO FEEL ASHAMED BEFORE OUR COMPATRIOTS AND OUR HEROIC COMRADES IN ARMS.

BROTHER COMBATANTS AT ALL LEVELS: OUR FIGHTING HAS COME TO A DECISIVE STAGE. YOU ARE FIGHTING A DECISIVE BATTLE IN HISTORY. ALL OF OUR PEOPLE LOVE AND HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOU AND OUR GREAT AND STRONG REAR IS GIVING YOU ITS UTMOST SUPPORT. REMAIN CONFIDENT WHILE FIGHTING, AND FIGHT STALWARTLY AND BE READY TO ENDURE HARDSHIPS AND MAKE SACRIFICES. ALL OF YOU MUST BE DETERMINED, A DETERMINATION LIKENED TO A STRONG FORTRESS WHICH THE AGGRESSORS, NO MATTER HOW TRUCULENT AND FANATIC THEY MAY BE, WILL BE UNABLE TO SHAKE. THE AGGRESSORS WILL FINALLY BE DEFEATED.

I HAVE LED YOU THROUGH MANY DANGEROUS CIRCUMSTANCES. THIS UNCLASSIFIED

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TIME, I AM AGAIN BY YOUR SIDE AND, TOGETHER WITH YOU, DETERMINED TO FIGHT AND TO WIN. END TEXT.

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